**Socratic Seminar: Free Will**

**Nomen: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Datum: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Seminar Overview:**

This Socratic Seminar will be based on the philosophical question of free will—whether we all need to have the option of doing something evil, or if we should be prevented from doing so. You will be trying to prove whether or not humans deserve the ability to choose for themselves.

**Seminar Question:**

The essential question to frame your argument for this seminar is:

* *Would you put an implant in the brain of every person in the world, that prevents them from lying, stealing, or causing harm?*

When you arrive to class on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, your notes, annotations, and handout should be prepared around making a *specific, concrete* argument answering that question.

**Resources**

You should be employing “Immy’s Interesting Invention” and citations, quotes, and evidence from it. Outside resources are welcome and encouraged.

You must answer on a separate piece of paper questions 1a and 1b, as well as the following questions:

*1. Is it right that our freedom be limited so that we behave better?*

*2. Is it right to have the right to do as we please even if others are harmed as a result?*

*3. What is more important: freedom or the greater good?*

**Expectations**

1. Everyone should be participating. This is a discussion, not a lecture.
2. You *should try to always* use evidence when supporting your arguments.
3. You should be listening respectfully, and paying attention. Do so by *using good body language and eye contact.*
4. Please allow a speaker to finish speaking before responding. Do not cut people off.
5. Be considerate and open-minded. **The purpose of a Socratic Seminar is not to win an argument. The point is to further your understanding of a topic. The only way to do so is to keep an open mind and fully listen to what others have to say.**
6. Ensure that everyone has had a chance to speak, or has been encouraged to speak. Please consider others if you have been talking a fair amount of the time, and yield to someone who looks like they’ve been waiting patiently. **It is just as important to hear multiple viewpoints from others, as it is to make your own point. This is the only way to test and strengthen your argument.**

**Rubric**

Below are the criteria for scoring in this Socratic Seminar:

*There is a total of 25 points to be earned during the seminar. Socratic Seminars will be scored under the “Tests” category, so these points will be valuable.*

1. Participation: you can earn up to **5 points** for participation:

a. 3 points minimum for speaking at least once,

b. 4 points for contributing at least twice,

c. 5 points for contributing at least thrice.

2. Preparation: you can earn up to **10 points** for preparation for the seminar:

a. 3 points minimum for bringing at the text

b. 4 points for bringing the text that is annotated.

c. 5 points for bringing the text and answering one question.

d. 10 points for bringing the text, annotated, and answering all questions on a separate sheet of paper.

3. Conduct: you can earn up to **10 points** for conduct during the seminar:

a. minimum 5 points for being respectful to all students.

b. 7 points for being respectful for the whole seminar, and for making good eye contact to all speakers.

c. 8 points for being respectful, making eye contact, letting others have their turn to speak, and speaking in a polite, calm, and respectful manner.

d. 9-10 points for all of the above, plus actively encouraging other students to speak.